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ABLE BOOK OF
THE CINQUE PORTS



Indexes
of
The Great White Book
and of
The Black Book of the Cinque Ports



H. B. ...

INDEXES
OF
THE GREAT WHITE BOOK
AND OF
THE BLACK BOOK
OF
THE CINQUE PORTS



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Cinque Ports White Book Index.

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N.B.—All the foregoing entries were copied from an Old Book not now in existence by Jno' Forcett, who was Common Clerk of New Romney.

H. B. WALKER.

[*For remainder of 1485 and subsequent years see p. 34, &c.*]

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NOTE.—Altho' the Pagination is continued, the chronological sequence reverts back to fol. 61. Probably the book has been misbound.

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(N.B.—This minute is incomplete, the whole leaf, fol. 230, being apparently lost.—H.B.W.)

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29th May, 1885.

H. B. WALKER,
NEW ROMNEY.





Cinque Ports Black Book Index.

A Copy of the Index or Table to the Decree Book of the Brood and Guestling of the Cinque Ports, commencing in the year 1572, made out in pursuance of an Order made at a Brood & Guestling holden at New Romney the 26th of July Anno 1726.

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1857

NEW ROMNEY.

COMMITTEE appointed to inspect Charters, Books, Writings and Papers deposited in the Chest in the Court Hall at New Romney by order of the Brotherhood held on the 26th day of July, 1726, and that Committee compare same with the schedule taken at the last Brotherhood in 1828, and that it also inspect and audit the Accounts of Solicitors and the other Accounts and report to-morrow.

On the following day the Committee reported they found as follows :

- No. 1. Charters of Charles 1st and 2nd.
- No. 2. Form of proclaiming the Free Fair at Yarmouth, used by the Bailiffs of the Ports.
- No. 3. The Lord Warden's Progress into Kent, and of being sworn 1st June 1694.
- No. 4. Sundry letters and papers respecting Yarmouth.
- No. 5. Commissions for Brotherhoods and Guestlings, a great number of both former and late centuries including those of 1812 deposited in the Chest by the Town Clerk of Hythe.
- No. 6. The Coronation Papers, numbered thus in the Schedule of Charters made in 1812 of George 2nd and Queen Caroline, and also of James 2nd and Charles 2nd and likewise of the proceedings at the Coronation of George 3rd and Queen Charlotte (these papers were reported as not being found in the Chest at the last Brotherhood Court in 1828).
- No. 7. Being No. 2 of the old Schedule of 1726. Books of Entries from 11th Henry 6th to the 9th Elizabeth,

1857 with full proceedings of all the Brotherhoods and Guestlings during that period.

No. 8. "The Register Book of the Cincqz Portes of England" denominated the Black Book commencing 1572.

No. 9. This is supposed to be the same packet as No. 6, some additional Coronation Papers have been found in the Yarmouth Box and put in the proper place.

No. 10. Special Agreements between the Lord Warden (Lord Cobham) and all the Ports, &c., September 1573.

No. 11. Box of Books and papers relating to Yarmouth from 1585 including a Return on parchment dated 1658 appointing Robert Wivill, the Kent Bailiff, to Yarmouth. Also the Flag Arms and Spearhead of Flag Staff.

No. 12. Ports Fines and various papers.

No. 13. Various Petitions to Brotherhoods and Guestlings, including various Reports of Brotherhood and other papers.

No. 14. The copies of the proceedings at the last Court of Brotherhood and Guestling in 1828.

The Ivory Seal of the Bailiffes to Yarmouth and the Book called the Customal Book of 1586 mentioned in the minutes of the last Meeting as not being found, are still missing.

Also that at the last Meeting in 1828 there was a balance in hand of £160 os. 4d. on the death of John Shipdem, and a balance of £143 1s. 10d. was paid over by the Executors to Mr. Stringer. A further account from him is shown, and a balance of £30 7s. 6d. is in hand on the 21st May, 1840. A further account is shown, and a balance to this time is in hand of £7 12s. 9d.

1857 The Report of the Committee is received and recorded on the Minutes.

Mr. Stringer, Solicitor, states that in 1839 he obtained the opinion of the Attorney General as to the effect of the Municipal Corporations Act, and he was of opinion that all the places specified in the Schedule to the Act were forbidden to make any application of the Borough Fund towards the expenses of the Courts of Brotherhood and Guestling.

Also that the Courts and Office of Speaker was not repealed, and other privileges of the Barons or Inhabitants to Canopy Service and Rights of Fishing and Exemption from Harbour Light and other Dues and Duties, &c., are not affected.

Ordered that the queries and the opinions of the Attorney General be entered on the minutes.

The Solicitor also stated that in July, 1839, he laid a similar case before Sir William Follett, who was of opinion that if any property belonging to the Corporations is more than sufficient to defray the charges mentioned in the Act that they were not prohibited from paying out of the surplus the customary expenses.

Ordered that this opinion be recorded.

The legality of several of the Commissions returning Deputations not being on stamps was discussed, and it was agreed they be received.

Clerk read Report of the proceedings in 1828 with regard to fines, and Mr. Stringer, Solicitor, stated they had taken Counsel's opinion thereon, which was read.

Ordered that usual fee be paid to Chaplain for his attendance, and vote of thanks for his Sermon, which was to be printed.

The Speaker asks the opinion of the House as to when the Office of Speaker commenced. Order that it commence yearly on the 21st May as heretofore.

Mr Thomas Baker Bass, Solicitor of Dover, was appointed one of the Solicitors to act jointly with Mr W^m Stringer, New Romney, instead of Mr Shipdem, deceased.

Order that the Solicitor acquaint the Speaker yearly of his office.

Order that the Record Commissioners be allowed to inspect the Records Books and papers on the consent of the Speaker being obtained, and that Mr. Attree, the Recorder of Hastings, be requested to cause the Resolution to be laid before the Commissioners.

Order that the Speaker be allowed the use of any Records, &c., for inspection and to make Extracts.

Petition presented from Lydd that they are unable to hold Quarter Sessions without the assistance of a Barrister as Assessor. They were reduced to two Freemen, and could not elect a Bailiff.

Order that it be entered on the Minutes.

Petition from Pevensey to enquire into the management of that Corporation to be entered on the Minutes.

Letter read from Mark Antony Lower of Lewes regretting unable to be present.

Order that £23 3s. 6d. expenses of the present Court be paid and apportioned among the Ports Towns and Members

Vote of thanks to the Mayor, &c., of New Romney for assistance in holding the Court and to the Rev^d Richard Smith and Churchwardens of Romney and the Speaker for his conduct and trouble.

1865

HASTINGS.

Resolution recording loss sustained by the death of Mr. W. Stringer and Mr. Thomas Baker Bass.

Resolution that Mr. Henry Stringer and Mr. Robert Growse be appointed Solicitors.

Petition in favour of the abolition of Fire Insurance Duty for the House of Commons sealed and order that the Lord Warden be requested to present it.

Select Committee appointed to whom letters are referred from the Archbishop of Canterbury on the question of the right of the Cinque Ports to hold their Courts in the Church at New Romney as heretofore accustomed, and instructed to search records and report.

Hastings Deputation appointed as Committee and Archbishop acquainted.

Resolution that Towns which had made no Return be fined £10 each.

Petition from John Holland of Pevensey making charges against Corporation of that place read.

Also Petition from Inhabitants of New Romney. Referred to Committee appointed to enquire as to right of holding Courts in the Church at New Romney.

Votes of Thanks passed to the Chaplain and Speaker.

1866

NEW ROMNEY.

The Speaker reports the bereavement befallen the Lord Warden, Earl Granville, by the sudden death of his Sister and Brother-in-law, Lord and Lady Rivers.

Address of Condolence prepared by the Town Clerk of Dover sealed.

Resolution that Samuel Griffiths, Mayor of Winchelsea, be elected Baron to administer the serement to the Lord Warden on his Installation.

Request by Members of the Court that the Record Books be sent for inspection to Winchelsea, Hastings, &c., in order to assist the Committee appointed to enquire into the Petitions presented at the last Court, and resolution that inexpedient they be taken out of custody of Officers—namely, the Mayor of New Romney and the Solicitors of the Ports.

Vote of thanks to the Vicar of New Romney and the Speaker's Chaplain (Rev^d J. J. West) for his Sermon.

1887

DOVER.

The Speaker states the last Court was held at Dover in 1575.

Address of congratulation to the Queen on the completion of the 50th year of her reign sealed.

Reported since last Court one of the Joint Solicitors (Mr. Robert Growse), has died. Mr. Edward Wollaston Knocker, Town Clerk of Dover, appointed Joint Solicitor in his place.

Votes of thanks passed to Speaker and the Mayor, Corporation, and Town Clerk of Dover, and to the Rev^d Canon Puckle for his Sermon.

1897

DOVER.

Address of Congratulation to the Queen on the completion of the 60th year of her reign sealed.

Discussion as to desirability of recording privileges of the Ports and the mode of defraying the cost of publication of an Index of the Records. The late Mr. Knocker's book on the Court of Shepway was referred to, and also the work by Professor Burrows on the Ports.

Votes of thanks passed to the Speaker and the Bishop of Dover for his Sermon.

1901

HASTINGS.

Protest entered on the Minutes on behalf of Dover against Hastings being described on the Programme of the Day as the Senior Port.

Vote of Condolence to King Edward VII. and the Royal Family on the death of Queen Victoria and a Loyal Address of Congratulation to the King on his Accession sealed.

A Committee consisting of the Mayors of Hastings and New Romney, Sir Wollaston Knocker, Solicitor, Mr. F. A. Inderwick, K.C., and the Town Clerk of Rye appointed to take steps for ascertaining the ancient right of the Barons to take part in the Coronation.

Vote of thanks to the Lord Bishop of Chichester for his sermon.

The Committee appointed as to Coronation requested to inspect the documents and Records of the Ports with reference to their custody preservation and publication, and report to next Meeting.

The same Committee asked to consider more frequent Meetings of Courts with a view of utilizing them for the mutual advantage of Ports and Towns in matters affecting the material and present interests of the Inhabitants.

Votes of thanks passed to Speaker and Mayor and Corporation of Hastings for their hospitality, and to the Bishop of Chichester Chaplain for the day and to the Town Clerks of Rye and Hastings for their assistance. Also of congratulation to Sir Wollaston Knocker, C.B., on his Knighthood.

1902

DOVER.

Address of Congratulation to King Edward VII. and Queen Alexandra sealed.

Committee appointed at the last Court report on :

Coronation.

Documents and Records of Ports.

Meetings of Courts.

Suggesting appointment of Standing Committee.

Accounts Coronation.

The whole of which are approved.

Votes of thanks to Mr. Inderwick and Sir Wollaston Knocker as to the Coronation, and to the Rev. Canon Page-Roberts for his Sermon, and to the Speaker and Mayor and Corporation of Dover.



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